Tips to help dyslexic students:

Reading:

Read tongue twisters, poems, rhymes, simple sentences within student’s grasp repeatedly. (Remember to finger point) this will help internalisation of spelling patterns.

Re-reading of sight vocabulary, student will gain confidence knowing they know the words, this time focus on spellings. Spell each word after saying it. Maybe 10 words a night.

Asking student to generate a list of words associated with a topic eg. School, a particular sport, food, etc. (Aim to generate these words as quickly as possibly, helps increase speed etc…..could be an idea to use a timer/stopwatch and allow 1 minute/2 minutes)

Summarise Ginn story/PM book/Big Cat reader every night into 2/3 sentences.

After reading a fairy tale/ paired reading book, or even watching a television programme/movie etc again try and summarise it to a few sentences.

Record student reading a page from their graded reader and reading an unknown piece of text. Ask them to listen back and give opinion on them. Does the student sound the same reading both?

Same exercise as above, an adult reading one page of Ginn Reader, record it, child reads the same page also recorded, listen back to both recordings, compare in terms of punctuation, pausing, does the story sound fluent, read without stopping etc.

Adult calls out a line of the text and student has to find it.

Adult thinks of a word, gives clues eg. I’m thinking of a word on page 5, it’s on the third line and starts with a /p/ sound. What word is it?

Practice reading some word problems (Maths) and circle the instruction on each line. (Skill here is developing comprehension and applying it to different situations)

Reading a story to a sibling, explaining a procedure eg. how to do something is important for the student to be able to do confidently.

Track for a specific letter/sound in the reader, a magazine etc. Can be a timed/untimed activity.

Point to signs in the supermarket, on the Dart, Luas, Bus etc and ask sudent to read them or sound out the letters. Alternatively ask the student to check what the sign says…eg does it say Bray or Howth? Is it going to the City Centre etc.

Practice using a dictionary. Write down 2/3 words to look up and ask the student to read out the meaning and then summarise it in their own words.

If you have two dictionaries have a race to find who can retrieve the word first and read out the definition.

Ask student to read the news headlines on the newspaper or television.

Writing/spelling:

Check every word has a vowel. Proof read work making sure there are capital letters and full stops in every sentence.

Call out a few words for student to write down, maybe common household objects.

Call out three or four items for a shopping list, get student to compare their list with yours (idea is they are self correcting any mistakes).

Cut up word or sentences and ask student to put them in order.

Again think of a topic, letter sound etc and give student 2 minutes to write down as many words as they can beginning with that letter.

Play hangman, stop the bus to aid with fluency and practice spellings in an informal way.

If cooking/baking, ask student to copy down the instructions from a device/book or call out the steps and ask student to write them down (informal dictation).